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The BG News November 30, 2004

Bowling Green State University

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BALLIN': Falcon's men basketball won over Bradley Saturday; **PAGE 7**

BGSU NEWS

Bowling Green State University

A daily independent student press

TUESDAY
November 30,
2004

PM SHOWERS
HIGH: 45 LOW: 39

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VOLUME 99 ISSUE 78

Police profiling targeted at march

By Miranda Bond
FEATURES EDITOR

"Reason not race" and "Stop all the hate" were chanted by a group of students who marched from the free speech area at the Union to the campus police department yesterday afternoon.

Members of Reason Not Race!, BGSU BAMN and students from an Ethnic Studies 201 class came together to protest what they feel is unfair profiling by local police when dealing with minority parties and events on campus.

"We want the administration and police department to take responsibility to acknowledge that there is a discrepancy in the way that the police department is treating minority student organizations at their functions," said Bianca Hutchinson, a member of RNR!

Jante Pratt, a participant in the march, agreed that racial profiling is an issue at the University.

"I feel that it is an issue that several students are being affected by and as a minority student I think that it is my responsibility to step up and try to remedy the situation," said Pratt. "My goal is to bring awareness to this issue and hopefully have the campus police department set up some type of system where people guilty of racial profiling will be reprimanded for their actions."

In protest of the unfair treatment, the students made their way to the police department chanting and holding up signs that they had created. As they marched through campus they

PROTEST, PAGE 2



Brian McRoberts BG News

A CALL FOR ACTION WITH ACTION: A small group of protestors marched through campus yesterday, in an effort to raise awareness about racial profiling at the University. The event was sponsored by RNR! and BAMN. At the end of the march, the crowd of 15 went to the campus police department to present the chief with a petition signed by 250 members of the minority community.

School crime down

By Curt Anderson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Violent crime against students in schools fell by 50 percent between 1992 and 2002, with young people more often targeted for violence away from school.

There were about 24 crimes of rape, sexual assault, robbery and physical assault for every 1,000 students in 2002, down from 48 per 1,000 a decade earlier, according to a report yesterday from the Education and Justice departments.

The reduction mirrored the trend found outside classrooms — overall crime is at a 30-year low across the nation.

The report found instances

of school violence involving students have dropped steadily since a string of fatal shootings in the 1990s, notably the 1999 killings of 13 people at Columbine High School in Colorado by two heavily armed students.

"There has been a drop, and we attribute a lot of that to the fact that schools are focusing on the issue more," said William Lassiter, school safety specialist at the Center for the Prevention of School Violence in Raleigh, N.C.

Schools have taken a number of steps, from installing metal detectors and hiring more security personnel to implementing programs aimed at

curbing bullying, which can lead to more serious crimes.

The report found students are more apt to be victims of violence outside schools.

In 2002, there were about 659,000 violent crimes involving students at school and about 720,000 away from school property. For the most serious nonfatal violent crimes — rape, assault and robbery — the crime rates were lower in school than away from school every year from 1992 to 2002.

The report also found that, between 1992 and 2000, students between 5 and 19 were 70 times more likely to be

STUDENTS, PAGE 2



Ewart Ball AP Photo

VIOLENCE: School resource officer Kevin Briggs monitors the halls of North Buncombe Middle School in Weaverville, N.C. The number of these officers has tripled since 1996, according to the Dept. of Juvenile Justice and Prevention.

Aid funds slashed

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The state's only counseling center for refugees tortured in their homelands was one of six nationwide to lose federal funding even as more refugees from war-ravaged countries come to central Ohio.

Counseling for depression or post-traumatic stress disorder is still available at Jewish Family Services in Columbus, but clients must pay a fee based on income — and bring their own interpreters, said Laura Southern, the counselor who ran the Victims of Torture program.

"I'm doing just garden variety counseling right now just to keep my job," she said yesterday.

In its first three years under a \$300,000 grant, the Columbus

center counseled 32 refugees who had been tortured in their homelands, Southern said. Starting in the program's second year, counselors wrote psychological reports on behalf of 19 of those patients seeking political asylum in the United States.

Two case managers also told 4,890 immigrants about the program through group education or other outreach efforts, Southern said. They were laid off along with a part-time nurse who did health screenings. Southern also had to cancel three support groups that helped 2,700 immigrants, including teenagers and women who may not have been torture victims but who

FUNDING, PAGE 2

First local flu case hits home

By Carrie Whitaker
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As the first case of influenza A was reported in Wood County, a mass e-mail was sent to students and staff over break to let people know the flu is back in town.

Dr. Glenn Egelman, director of Student Health Services, said even though there have not been any cases reported on campus, people should not take the news lightly.

"The case in Wood County is the same [strain] that hit the county last year," Egelman said. "This year the vaccine does cover that strain, but the problem is no one got the vaccine."

Back in October one of the two influenza vaccine manufacturers had to stop distribution of their vaccine due to contamination. Without the supply from the company, Chiron Corporation, the vaccine shortage has been felt everywhere, including Bowling Green.

Therefore, prevention is key in order to avoid an outbreak on campus, Egelman said.

"The e-mail I sent is a heads up to say, 'It's coming,'" Egelman said. "That's the point — education."

The University has one more weapon to fight off the flu season this year, Egelman said.

The Student Health Center has been made a sentinel site for influenza by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and the Ohio Department of Health.

This means that the University has a specialized test it can administer on people with the flu in order to find out exactly what kind of influenza the patient has.

"There is influenza A and B and all kinds of subtypes," Egelman said. "They only gave us a few tests, but we will know exactly what could be causing an outbreak on campus and then tailor our treatment to that."

Egelman wanted to make it clear that these are special tests,

not special treatments.

"It will help others more than it will help the individual," Egelman said.

Being made a sentinel site is important for the University, Egelman said, because residence halls can easily create the environment for an outbreak.

"Students living in residence halls are considered high risk," Egelman said. "... Last year there were college students who died in their residence halls from influenza — it can happen. It's very rare, but it can happen."

Making sure on-campus

INFLUENZA, PAGE 2

INFLUENZA A PREVENTION

- Wash hands well and often
- Don't share drinks, toothbrushes
- Influenza is spread by droplets in the air and from direct contact with individuals with the virus.

INFLUENZA SYMPTOMS

- A high fever (102-104 F)
- Body aches/headaches and/or exhaustion
- Usually people can pinpoint exactly when their symptoms started, it hits you quickly

WHAT TO DO IF YOU GET THE FLUE

- Call the Student Health Center at 419-372-2271
- If the Student Health Center is closed contact the Wood County Hospital at 419-354-8900.

Information provided by Glenn Egelman, director of Student Health Services

FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

WEDNESDAY

Showers High: 44° Low: 29°

THURSDAY

Flurries High: 41° Low: 27°

FRIDAY

Cloudy High: 37° Low: 25°

SATURDAY

Cloudy High: 45° Low: 33°

FOR ALL THE NEWS VISIT WWW.BGNEWS.COM

Prevention stressed

INFLUENZA, FROM PAGE 1

students know the danger of the flu and how to prevent it is a serious matter, Nick Hennessy, associate director of Residence Life, said.

"So far, knock on wood, things have been pretty good. We have not received any reports that people are ill," Hennessy said.

Efforts by Residence Life to inform students about the flu have included creating billboards in the residence halls, holding information sessions and running an informational

slide on channel 99, the movie channel available to on-campus students.

Hennessy said the office had hoped to team up with the Wellness Connection this year to offer flu shots in the residence halls, but when the shortage became apparent it was impossible.

"We were kind of disappointed by the lack of the vaccine," Hennessy said. "We had to scratch our idea, but that is why we are going a long way with prevention."

FluMist, a nasal flu vaccine

by Medimmune Vaccines, Inc., will be available tomorrow in the Union Lobby from 1-3 p.m. Egelman said anyone interested should plan to be there at 1 p.m.

"We expect to run out," he said. "Get there early if you can."

Unfortunately they are low on the FluMist vaccine, so some students will not be eligible, he said.

"When medical systems get so overwhelmed all we can do is focus on prevention," Egelman said. "Prevention is the key because without the flu shot we are already behind."

State refugees on own

FUNDING, FROM PAGE 1

came from countries where torture is common practice.

The program was one of 30 counseling centers and four legal aid clinics set up nationwide under a \$10 million grant in 2001. For the renewals, the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement had the same amount of money while encouraging new centers to open.

"There just wasn't enough money to go around," Southern said, saying federal overseers were critical of some aspects

of her proposal, such as the specifics on how patient outcomes are measured.

Three California programs and two in Arizona also were cut, while the refugee office approved money for eight new centers, according to The Center for Victims of Torture in Minneapolis, which coordinated training under the grant.

Ohio's program also had to cancel plans for outreach work among the 150 Somali Bantu sent to Columbus in the past year by the Office of Refugee Resettlement, she said. The

Bantu, descendants of slaves in the eastern African nation who were left homeless and persecuted during Somalia's civil war, have spent many years in Kenyan refugee camps.

Southern said any mental health problems they might have could be worsened if the refugees have trouble finding jobs or assimilating.

The program focused mainly on Somali refugees but found many from western African nations and the former Soviet Union who also had been torture victims, she said.

Police 'appreciative' of feedback, agree to plan for racial discussion

PROTEST, FROM PAGE 1

received stares and demanded the attention of everyone that they passed.

When the group arrived at the police station, they were asked to stand outside while Hutchinson and another representative from the protest talked with the police chief. The anxious students waited in the sprinkling rain on the steps of the station for over a half-hour to hear the results of their meeting.

Hutchinson stepped out of the meeting with a smile on her face. She said that the police chief agreed to participate in an open forum to hear complaints about the issue.

"It was successful. He is willing to listen to us and he was very open, very appreciative of our voice, which is good," said Hutchinson.

"He wants to work with us, he actually suggested an open forum. I was really surprised. We're going to push for this open forum so he can hear our views and thoughts."

Hutchinson and Pratt are in the process of organizing RNR!, BSU and other groups on campus to participate in the forum.

They plan on having a date, time and place set for the event by the end of this week.



Brian McRoberts/BG News

FILMING A COINCIDENCE: Several students near yesterday's march were working on a project for their telecommunication 263 class about a nuisance law. Junior Chris Gordon (with video camera) was not planning to film a protest. Senior Jon Rivera is in the police car, and the officer is Larry Bateson, who was helping the students out with their project. The pair were filming when representatives of RNR! and BAMN arrived as part of a march against racial profiling in the campus community.

Schools see crime dip, move to street

STUDENTS, FROM PAGE 1

murdered away from school than on campus. There were 234 homicides at school during that time span, compared with more than 24,000 away from school.

"There was initially great concern about school violence, but our report shows that kids are safer at school than they are away from school," said the report's co-author, Katrina Baum of the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Overall in 1992 there were more than 3.4 million crimes in school against students between 12 and 18, the report estimated.

That included more than 2.2 million thefts — by far the most common serious crime in school — and over 1.1 million violent crimes.

By 2002, the report found the total number had dropped to 1.7 million crimes; just over 1 million thefts and about 659,000 violent crimes.

Teachers are also targets of schoolhouse crime. The report found that from 1998 through 2002 teachers were victims of an annual average of 233,900 crimes at school, more than 90,000 of them violent. That translates to an annual rate of 51 crimes per 1,000 teachers.

The report shows that inner-city teachers are more than twice as likely to be victims of violent crimes than those in suburban or rural school districts, and that male teachers are more often attacked than female teachers.

The report does not give year-to-year comparisons because the sample sizes studied are too small, Baum said.

Other findings in the report:

- In 2003, 22 percent of students in grades 9-12 reported using marijuana during the preceding 30 days. That compares with 18 percent in 1993 and 27 percent in 1999.

- About 45 percent of high school students in 2003 said they had at least one alcoholic drink in the 30 days before they were surveyed, about the same as in 1993 and down from a recent high of 52 percent in 1995.

- About 21 percent of students in 2003 said that street gangs were active in their schools, most often in urban districts.

- 12 percent of students in 2003 said that someone had used "hate-related words" against them in the preceding six months.

More than a third of students said they had seen "hate-related graffiti" at school.

Greek BGSU

Office of Residence Life

Gamma Sigma Alpha - National Greek Academic Honor Society & Office of Residence Life/Greek Affairs congratulates the following 28 Fall 2004 inductees representing the top 3% of BGSU Greeks academically

Membership Requirements

Junior or Senior Status

3.50 cumulative GPA or achieve a 3.50 GPA during junior or senior year

Alpha Chi Omega

Kristin Cantrell
Kathleen Kely
Jill Schumacher
Courtney Yun

Gamma Phi Beta

Sarah Schaffer

Alpha Gamma Delta

Katrina Schultz

Kappa Delta

Emily Burcin
Vanessa Klein
Claire Landis-Tyson

Alpha Kappa Alpha

Leah Shaw

Lambda Chi Alpha

Daniel Grodhaus

Alpha Xi Delta

Danielle Clark

Phi Mu

Emily Leib

Chi Omega

Fay Coleman
Renee Rambeau
Carrie Bowles

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Andrew Lehman
David Ruda

Delta Gamma

Hilary Erlenbach

Sigma Kappa

Caitlin Alcox
Jennifer Eberhardt
Kaleena Headlee
Amy Kirk
Kara LeSage
Lindsey May
Jessica Mocilnikar
Jennifer Monroe
Chelsie Reynolds

Chrysalis Buller - Graduate Honorary
Andrea Obrochta - Graduate Kappa Delta - honorary
Susan Pelo - Graduate Alpha Omicron Pi - honorary
Andrea Zwolinski - Graduate Alpha Delta Pi - honorary

Congratulations to the Fall 2004 Outstanding Faculty Advisors for their continual support and dedication to the BGSU Greek community

Dr. Warren McGovern

Assistant Professor of Mathematics & Statistics
Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity

Dr. Bettina Shuford

Director of the Center for Multi-Cultural and Academic Initiatives

Greek GPA = 2.84

Non-Greek GPA = 2.91

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

BGSU Residence Life - Greek Affairs Mission

Building the premiere Fraternity and Sorority Community in North America utilizing continuous improvement that provides the following: 1. A quality undergraduate residential experience for the housed fraternities & sororities 2. A complete quality undergraduate fraternity and sorority experience that builds community among all Greeks and that emphasizes our founding principles of: Scholarship · Service · Leadership · Brotherhood/Sisterhood 3. A Commitment to furthering the Greek Advising profession through a quality graduate preparatory experience, research, conference attendance & presentation and national leadership.

BGSU DEFENDS BLOOD BOWL TITLE

Throughout November, The University of Toledo and this University have competed with one another in the American Red Cross Blood Bowl III. BG out-donated UT with 3.7 percent of students representing, while UT had 2.4 percent. The University won a trophy that will be held onto until next year's challenge.

get a life

The calendar of events is taken from
<http://events.bgsu.edu/>

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

CMAI Annual Campus-Wide Kwanzaa Celebration Ticket Sales. The event features a presentation of the seven principles of Kwanzaa, African dancing and drumming, a soul food dinner and door prizes! Admission is \$8 w/ student ID, \$10 non-students and \$5 children under 12. Purchase advanced tickets in the CMAI Office 424 Saddlemere Building 11/1/04-12/2/04. 424 Saddlemere

8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

"Nature's Apprentice" Student Union Galleries Works by David Spasic Union

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Kaplan Table Sponsored by Alpha Epsilon Delta Union

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Real Life Information Table Union

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Understanding Rater Bias A workshop that focuses on developing valid and reliable screening criteria and structured interviews. Union, 201

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Dance Marathon Snowglobe Sale.

Fundraiser sponsored by Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-med Society Union

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Design Migrations Art Exhibition Curated by BGSU UniGraphics director, designer, and instructor Paul Obringer, this exhibition will highlight current work by former student interns who are now establishing their own identities in the world of design. The designers, along with the School of Art design division, will hold a three-day workshop consisting of discussion panels, lectures, and portfolio reviews, capped off with a reception on

the evening of December 4, 2004. Fine Arts Center - Willard Wankelman Gallery

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Dodgeball Tournament Sign-up, Sponsored by American Marketing Association Union

10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Continuing Education Summer Campaign Table Union

11 a.m.

Back By Popular Demand... SUSHI! Founders Keepers Food Court

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Latter-Day Saints Student Association Information Table Union

3:30 p.m.

Empowerment Group for Women Survivors of Abusive Dating Relationships. Student support group is a space for women at all stages of recovery to discuss their experiences and the patterns of abuse, explore safety options,

facilitate healing and learn to recognize cues to potentially abusive behaviors and relationships. Confidentiality is emphasized. 107 Hanna Hall

8 p.m.

World Percussion Night Moore Musical Arts Center Event is free and open to the public. Kobacker Hall

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

How 2 Workshop Gingerbread Houses Annual Favorite! Assemble and decorate a small gingerbread house using royal icing, assorted candies, and snack items to make each house a unique treasure. Total Cost: \$13 Student Union, Room 316-Alumni Room

9:30 p.m.

Movie: Collateral Free Movie courtesy of University Activities Organization Union Theater

7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Worship Come join Real Life as we learn more about Jesus Christ.

Union 315

8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Videobank General Meeting Come Join Our Student-run Music Television Organization. For more information, check out www.bgvideobank.org or stop by our meeting...don't eat dinner, because we're ordering pizza! West Hall, 031

11 a.m.

Back By Popular Demand... SUSHI! Founders Keepers Food Court

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

UPS Recruitment, Sponsored by the Career Center Union

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Recruitment Table Student

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Raffle tickets Alpha Phi Omega will be selling raffle tickets to raise money for the Breast Cancer Society. Union

College paper toes free speech

By Patricia Alex (KRT)

HACKENSACK, N.J. — The Medium, a student-run weekly newspaper at Rutgers University, includes the kind of content that used to be shrouded in brown paper wrappers.

In the past two weeks alone, the paper has featured a comic strip depicting a man slapping a woman in the face during sex, an anonymous editorial calling all Rutgers women bitches, computer-created photos of President Bush and Osama bin Laden having sex and personals with homophobic, racist and anti-Semitic references.

All of it — including the obscenity and the hateful speech — is protected under the First Amendment, university officials say. And here at the public university, The Medium has another court-protected advantage that allows it to stay in business: It's funded by activity fees that students are required to pay.

The Medium will get about \$22,000 in student funds this school year, allocated by the student government associations at the university's Livingston and Rutgers colleges. The public funding allows it to distribute 6,000 copies each week among the five Rutgers campuses in New Brunswick/Piscataway, New Jersey.

Some students are fed up. "It subjugates women right, left and center," said Kim Brynildsen, a freshman at Rutgers' women's college, Douglass. Brynildsen, who is from Parsippany, N.J., and some of the other students at Douglass have launched a petition drive to get The Medium off campus. The initiative, she said, grew out of a women's studies class assignment to "construct a feminist action project."

The editor of The Medium,

Michael Stanley, said he and other staffers went to the rally merely to "have a dialogue" with the protesters. "We tried to explain to the people that we're not there to degrade women," he said.

This week's issue of The Medium responded to the protesters with a cover of topless women headlined "Douglass Protest Gone Wild."

In mid-November, 5,000 issues of the Medium disappeared. An anonymous group, whose members call themselves "The Progressive Activists," took responsibility. "If you're going to be progressive, don't steal our papers," Stanley said.

The Medium bills itself as "the Entertainment Weekly" of the Rutgers campus. Founded in 1970 as the campus newspaper of Livingston, The Medium says it provides "a special brand of light-hearted humor" to students. Many of the submissions are anonymous. It is delivered every Wednesday to student centers, dining halls and academic buildings.

"We are an envelope-pushing paper," said Stanley, the editor, a senior from Scotch Plains, N.J. "From speaking with students, I've realized we're an integral part of Wednesdays on campus."

This isn't the first time that the paper has been at the locus of controversy.

Last year, there were more student protests over the profane personals, which routinely slur many groups. This spring, editors apologized for publishing a cover-page cartoon

that mocked the Holocaust. It featured a man throwing a ball at another who sat atop an oven. The text read: "Knock a Jew in the oven!" Editors said the drawing was not intended to be anti-Semitic but was meant to amuse through extraordinary absurdity.

The cartoon sparked outrage from many students, school officials and outside groups. Nonetheless, Rutgers President Richard L. McCormick, in a letter to the university community, said not much could be done.

"It's understandable that many students want to shut down the paper because of its content," McCormick wrote. "To do so would clearly break the law."

The nation's courts have allowed wide latitude for speech on college campuses. Language that incites (there was a suggestion in The Medium that those who stole the papers be "hanged" in the middle of campus) likely doesn't cross the legal standard of "fighting words," some experts say.

"There is a pretty strong threshold for obscenity," with all but hard-core pornography being exempt from protection, said David Hudson of the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University. Similarly, a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2000 found that universities could not withhold student-fee funding from registered student groups.

In a unanimous ruling involving a case at the University of Wisconsin, the Supreme Court said that student funds

BG NEWS BRIEFING

Ethos concert

The Ethos Percussion Group will hold a concert Friday at the Moore Musical Arts Center. It will perform in Kobacker Hall at 8 p.m. as part of the Moore Musical Arts Center's Festival Series.

Students who have not bought tickets in advance may buy a ticket for \$10 at Moore Musical Arts Center's box office on Friday.

Ethos is a percussion-only quartet that premieres works by contemporary artists as well as traditional pieces from Central America, West Africa and Asia.

Before its Friday

performance, Ethos will hold a drum circle this Thursday at 8 p.m. It will be held at the Union in room 308 and is free to the public.

BGSU forensics & debate wins big in Kentucky

The University's Falcon Forensics and Debate Team brought home 52 individual awards when it returned from the Berea College/Cumberland College Kentucky Swing Tournament Nov. 19 & 20. The Forensicators, as the team calls itself, placed third among the southern region's best programs, including the National Forensic Association Champions, Western Kentucky University.

In 1979... a record was set by 11 FRESHMAN

for the most students to fit in a dormitory closet!



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Panama City Beach Florida 2005 Spring Break Sweepstakes Rules:
No Purchase or Obligation Necessary to Enter or Win. Open to legal U.S. residents 18 and older at time of entry. Void where prohibited. Sweepstakes ends 12:00:00 AM (Midnight) (ET) 1/1/04 and ends at 11:59:59 PM (ET) 1/31/05 (Promotional Period). Automatically receive one (1) Sweepstakes entry when you complete the registration form at <http://www.pcb05.com>. Entrants must complete all the required information to be eligible. Winner selected at random on or about 2/7/05. Prize/Value: (1) Grand Prize: A 7-day, 6-night trip for four (4) to Panama City Beach Florida for Spring Break 2005. The winner and three guests must travel for a 7-day period from 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM, or prize will be forfeited and awarded to an alternate winner. Approx. Retail Value (ARV) \$4,000. The odds of winning will be dependent upon the number of eligible entries received. Sweepstakes subject to complete official rules, which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to "Panama City Beach Florida 2005 Spring Break Sweepstakes" Rules, PO Box 5000, Marshfield, NY 11060, for receipt by 03/17/05 or online at <http://www.pcb05.com>.

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QUOTEUNQUOTE

"I believe this should be as important as the war on terrorism ... This should be as important as if our own daughters and sons were dying."

R&B singer/pianist Alicia Keys, on the AIDS crisis in sub-Saharan Africa, in a Billboard magazine commentary
(Billboard Magazine)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL

Racial issue gets scant support

Yesterday at 3 p.m. from the front of the Union to the campus police station, 15 University students marched in protest of the practice of racial profiling on campus.

Racial profiling is the policy of law enforcement to stop minority persons for questioning based on their race.

The students were trying to draw attention to a problem that has been in the national spotlight, though inconsistently, for years.

YOU DECIDE

What kind of role do you think minority organizations on campus should play on the issue of racial profiling? Send an Email to thenews@bgnews.com and tell us what you think, or post feedback on our web site.

Reason Not Race!, a small group of University students, worked in conjunction with BGSU BAMN (By Any Means

Necessary), another group at the University. These groups requested help from the Black Student Union, the Latino Student Union and the NAACP.

While members of these groups did contribute to the more than 200 signatures gathered before Thanksgiving break, their leaders did not march with RNR! and BAMN.

Although signatures are an important contribution to the movement, their physical presence would have been

more influential.

This is not to put all the blame on these organizations. All students who feel concern for the subject should have sacrificed 30 minutes of their day. They would have been making a significant statement not only to the campus police but also to their classrooms by leaving their 2:30 class to participate in a rally.

The fact that this is even an issue, especially on a college campus is disconcerting. Colleges are

supposed to be havens of diversity and education.

Racial profiling is inherently an ignorant practice that singles out persons based on prejudices.

It has been proven ineffective repeatedly, most notably after the Oklahoma City bombing when police were searching for people of Middle Eastern descent.

RNR! and BAMN were trying to draw attention to an issue that most people would agree is unacceptable.

We challenge the entire BGSU community – especially BSU, LSU and NAACP – to combine their efforts in the coming weeks, standing behind RNR! and BAMN to form a unified front. The mass influence that would accompany these minority groups should prove to both the campus police department and the University that racial profiling has absolutely no place in a progressive academic community.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fans must put themselves in players' shoes

In relation to the problems at the Detroit Pistons and Indiana Pacers basketball game, BGSU fans might consider if there are any potential problems at our games.

For example, there are fans that congregate at the 50-yard line just behind the opponents' sideline at the east side of the football stadium, and that stand next to the court at the basketball games. These fans spend a lot of time taunting the other team members.

What they might do instead is cheer the players from both teams when they make outstanding plays.

Think about how difficult and scary it is for a Marshall or BGSU receiver to catch a pass going over the middle while being hit by two linebackers. Think about how hard it is for a Toledo or BGSU guard to make a three-pointer going sideways with a hand in her face and time running out.

Think about how hard it is to practice every day, have a social life, keep in contact with your family and loved ones, go to class and pass and be taunted

by fans at every game. In fact, just think.

R. C. WOODRUFF
DEPARTMENT OF
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Victims advocate leaving the U.

It has come to my attention that the victims advocate, operating out of the Transformation Project located in the Women's Center will no longer be providing services to BGSU community as of December 31, 2004.

Her contract, which was originally part of a federal initiative to provide advocacy and violence-against-women services to universities has been cut back in the past two years. And, although the University has agreed, through Student Affairs and Dr. Edward Whipple, to pay the salaried and budgeted difference in the past, this year the agreement was not met.

Unfortunately and detrimentally, losing the victim advocate will cost many women their lives.

She has already provided services to over 100 women and

men in the past year alone, and in the past four years since the project's initiation has served countless BGSU students, faculty, staff and BG community members who fell victim to rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, relationship abuse, and countless other forms of violence against their personhoods.

She has been responsible for the confidential and anonymous support group for survivors of domestic and relationship violence and has kept many victims and survivors from taking their own lives because of the support, comfort and resources she was able to provide.

I feel this is extremely urgent to address because without Ms. Nichols, there will no longer be an advocate or resource on the campus of BGSU, and only one advocate in the entire Wood County district already primarily servicing off-campus/non-university affiliated individuals.

Because statistics tell us that between the ages of 18-24 most rapes and sexual assaults occur on campus, I believe we are putting both women and men in serious danger without someone to safely and accurately address their needs.

JEANETTE K. BEAL
STUDENT

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

"What news story deserves more coverage?"



BETHANY WINSTON
SENIOR, ENGLISH

"I stopped paying attention to the news after the election."



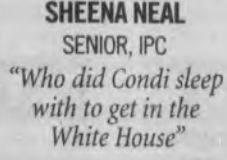
CHRISTINE CATASTROPHE
JUNIOR,
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
AND 2-D ART

"How free trade isn't fair. Down with NAFTA."



SARAH STAKES
JUNIOR, ARTISTRY

"That there will be definite insurrect(ion) at the Vanity House this Saturday."



SHEENA NEAL
SENIOR, IPC

"Who did Condi sleep with to get in the White House"

News ad shows a shameful practice

JEFF LOMBARDI

Guest Columnist

I recently saw a report on Toledo's own 13 Action News about whether or not there were actually true stories that would parallel the new and, as I understand it, extremely popular television show "Desperate Housewives."

Actually, when I said "saw a report on," I meant "saw an ad for a report on."

Regardless, my first reaction was, and I quote, "Whaaaaa?????" But now that I have accurately recounted my reaction, I would like to take this opportunity to explain my reasoning behind my comical, but no less serious, reaction. The report, and the ad for the report, had nothing to do with shedding light on the esoteric and mysterious "life of a housewife," but rather the aim to get some people to watch the news broadcast and the television show itself.

First of all, the ad for the report was shown on

Sunday evening between the hours of nine and 10 on ABC – Channel 13. Yes, you are right, say it louder so those around you can hear it – the program that is being shown between the hours of nine and 10 on Sunday evenings is none other than "Desperate Housewives."

How coincidental that the ad was played during that show? You don't think that maybe they did that on purpose, do you?

And also, how coincidental is it that the network that owns the rights to the TV show should also be the one that relates the show to real life? Again, you are correct. Good for you. Reward yourself however you deem fit.

Before I move on, I must justify and clarify the reason why I was actually watching ABC between the hours of 9 and 10 p.m. I was at work (at the front desk of Kriescher Ashley Batchelder) and I turned the TV on to watch the show immediately following "Desperate Housewives," which is "Boston Legal." In fact, I had no idea "Desperate Housewives" was on. No, seriously.

Alright, now moving on, let's extrapolate a little bit. The fact that they showed a preview of a report that deals with the real-life implications of a TV show could and probably does

"TV news scares us into watching their program by giving us previews like 'Is your child going to die? Stay tuned at 11.'"

mean something more sinister and irresponsible – that the news network decided to complete a report about a TV show to do two things: to boost the ratings of their beloved "Desperate Housewives," and to boost the ratings of the news program.

I know what you are thinking. Wouldn't it be irresponsible for a news program to produce a report with the sole intention of boosting viewership instead of, say, using those ten or so minutes to have a report that would be useful? Answer? Yes. However, don't forget that this is TV news we're dealing with here. We all know that TV news is not supposed to give us fair

and balanced news, and that they are not really supposed to give us the most important news of the day. I mean, come on – it would be wrong of us to expect this from them. We all know that, instead of giving us news we can actually use, TV news scares us into watching their program by giving us previews like "Is your child going to die? Stay tuned at 11."

The same is happening with the ad for the report I saw about housewives. In today's world, with high gas prices, a war and countless other things that are clearly very important, the TV news would rather give us a report that will feed paranoia of working men whose wives stay at home. The ad seems to be asking "Is your wife cheating? Find out at 11!" Why else would the producers care about this, other than to scare working men into watching the report to see if they should call a private eye to follow the exploits of his stay-at-home wife?

But, hey. They have to get people to watch their shows somehow. It's not like people everywhere don't tune into their local news every day at every possible time. I guess they are justified in the assumption that if they don't scare us into watching their news, we just won't watch them to find out what is going on in the world around us.

Government seizes properties

TIM BIRKEL

U-Wire Columnist

Most of you probably went to your parents' homes for Thanksgiving. Your parents have probably worked hard to buy that house, putting aside money year after year so they could own a little piece of land to call their own.

Maybe they hope to give that house to you some day. They probably thought it was a pretty safe investment. After all, barring unforeseen acts of God, once they bought that land it was theirs – and their descendants – for as long as they choose to own it. Right?

Not quite. It's called Eminent Domain. It turns out there exists a little-known clause in the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution which says, among lists of criminal procedure prohibitions, "Nor shall private property be taken

for public use without just compensation."

Recent developments have led to a critical juncture in the debate over use of the "eminent domain" clause.

It's been a long and winding road that began shortly after our country was founded, leads through the Barron vs. Baltimore Supreme Court decision, the 14th Amendment, and the writing of many state constitutions.

For most of history, eminent domain has given the government the ability to take land for actual public works such as a school, or public utilities, such as a railroad or power lines, so long as the owner was paid "just compensation."

In the latter half of the 20th century, it was expanded to mean the government could condemn and seize "blighted" land.

Now, governments want to redefine "public use" to mean "anything that brings in more

tax revenue," and "blighted" to mean "any land we want to give to a private party that would bring us more revenue." And what, in fact, constitutes "just compensation?"

Imagine this scenario: You own a large piece of land, say for a small farm or an auto-repair shop. You have owned it all your life. The land and buildings on it are in good repair, and you're not doing anything illegal on it, but the government thinks that it isn't making enough money off of you.

In swoops Uncle Sam, condemns the land and sells it at a severely reduced price to a developer who will put a Generic All-Inclusive Discount-Mart, which will bring in millions more in taxes than you've ever paid.

You're left with a lot less money than you would have gotten had you sold your land willingly on the open market.

PROPERTIES, PAGE 5

BGNEWS

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The BG News Submission Policy

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are longer pieces between 600 and 800 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

POLICIES

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of The BG News.

U.S. cannot endorse a religion

JEREMY PARKER

U-Wire Columnist

For the first time in 25 years, the Supreme Court has decided it will tackle the issue of the Ten Commandments being displayed on government property.

It's a bitter debate that the court tried to brush under the rug for a quarter century, but much like my undying love for Def Leppard, it just won't go away.

On one side, you've got your church and state separatists, who are perfectly content with the government not forcing its citizens to acknowledge their own personal religious beliefs through jumbo monoliths.

On the other side – not so much.

For example, remember last year's fiasco in Alabama? When the Alabama Judicial Ethics Panel demanded that Judge Roy Moore remove the commandments from his courthouse, Moore refused and was removed from office.

Conservatives everywhere flipped their wigs and rallied around Moore (because apparently, "activist judges" are only bad if they're liberal).

The arguments of Moore's supporters were nothing new, and nothing convincing, either.

Like everyone else on that side of the fence, most claimed that they weren't religiously motivated, they just wanted the commandments there because of their historical significance.

"After all," they said, "our country was founded on these principles, and our laws are

based on them."

Oh, really? Let's take a quick look at the Ten Commandments, and how hugely they impact our laws.

1. "Have no other Gods" (not a law).
2. "Don't use the Lord's name in vain" (not a law).
3. "No false idols" (not a law).
4. "Keep the Sabbath holy" (not a law).
5. "Honor thy Father and Mother" (not a law).
6. "No murderin'" (a law).
7. "No adultery" (not a law).
8. "Don't steal" (a law).
9. "Don't lie" (not a law).
10. "Don't covet" (not a law).

So as you can

see, a whopping 20 percent of our laws are based on the Ten Commandments, which even pales in comparison to Shaquille O'Neal's free throw average.

It's quite obvious that the "our country was founded on these principles" argument is code for, "hurry up and convert to my religion," because otherwise, they'd be more consistent.

After all, our country was also founded on the idea that a woman's role is nothing more than a baby machine and dishwasher, but are these people chaining their wives in the kitchen? Oh, and there's also that whole "slavery" thing that also kind of played a huge part in our country's foundation.

If you think the commandments should be on

display because "our country was founded on it," you'd also better advocate slavery and submissive roles for women. No picking and choosing will be allowed.

I'm not denying that Christianity was important to the founding fathers and the formation of this country. But let's not forget that it was just as important that the government make no establishment of religion.

It's true that the phrase "separation of church and state" doesn't explicitly appear in the Constitution, but it was still an important philosophy that was imperative in ensuring that our

government can't tell us who to worship.

Frankly, maintaining a separation of church and state is more important now than ever (thanks to four more years of Jesus McGod in the White House).

This country would be a lot better off if the

government operated like an agnostic – not denying any religion, but not confirming one, either.

When the Ten Commandments reside on government property, it passes the point of being merely a historical document. It becomes an undeniable endorsement of one particular religion over another.

Keeping church and state separate is nothing to be afraid of. What should really scare us is a government endorsement of one religion over another.

"When the Ten Commandments reside on government property ... It becomes an undeniable endorsement of one particular religion."

PROPERTIES, FROM PAGE 4

Are we witnessing the death of property rights in America?

Will we all wake up tomorrow and find our houses condemned, to be replaced by yet another Wal-Mart or Meijer?

Maybe it won't happen to you tomorrow, but if we stand idly by and let the government invent new and dangerous

powers for itself, we run that risk.

So what is to be done? How can we stand up for our rights when many judges will sit idly by and let these abuses happen?

Foremost, get informed about eminent domain abuse and the dangers it poses. A good web site to start off at

would be the Castle Coalition (www.castlecoalition.org),

which offers extensive information and links to other organizations fighting for property rights across America.

Property rights are among the most basic principles on which this nation was founded. If we stand by and let them be taken, what will they take next?

Dollar's plunge could be costly

DANIEL SNEIDER

KRT Campus Columnist

When President Bush met the leaders of 20 Asian and Pacific nations last week, he wanted to talk about North Korea and Iran.

But those nations had another security crisis on their minds – the fall of the dollar.

The dollar is now down to nine-year lows and there are jitters about a financial crisis.

If foreign lenders lose confidence, they could trigger a free fall collapse of the dollar. As the cost of imports rise, inflation could jump. And interest rates for banks and home buyers would soar as investors demand a higher return for their greater risk.

That nightmarish scenario is probably overdrawn. But the dollar's drop reflects the belief that the American economy is not healthy.

The signs of illness are two huge and growing imbalances – the federal budget deficit and the current account deficit, the shortfall between what America takes in from the world through trade and investment and what it spends.

In 1990 the global balance stood at zero. Now the U.S. is \$665 billion in the hole.

President Bush made soothing noises at the Asian Pacific economic summit about the commitment to a "strong dollar." But investors correctly read the signals that the actual policy is to let markets drive the value of the dollar down in an orderly way.

The administration sees dollar devaluation as a way to correct a global imbalance. It will make American exports cheaper and more competitive and imports more expensive for American consumers.

They are confident the U.S. remains an attractive place for the world to park its money.

Those currencies that trade freely – the Euro, Canadian dollar, British pound and lately

the Japanese yen – have gone up rapidly in value against the dollar in the last few weeks.

The one major trading partner that has escaped so far is China, whose currency is fixed to the value of the dollar.

The Chinese want to keep their exports cheap but American pressure may force a small revaluation of its currency.

Our trading partners are unhappy about the dollar's slide. But this is needed correction.

The danger is the fall will encourage countries to reduce

their dollar holdings, shifting to Euros, gold or Japanese stocks whose value has been rising.

The problem for the United States is that those dollars are now financing our huge budget deficit, which will hit \$450 billion this year. The administration has been unwilling to ask

Americans to pay for the war on terror and the war in Iraq.

The twin deficits are driven in part by the growing difference between what Americans spend and what they earn. American savings – both household, corporate and, of course, government savings – have deteriorated greatly in the last five years.

Instead we borrow money abroad. The dollar holdings of China, Japan, India and other Asian countries have leapt up from about \$1.1 trillion in 2001 to about \$1.8 trillion in 2003. And much of that is invested in American Treasury bonds and stocks.

The Chinese, emboldened by the reality that we depend

on their dollars, now happily lecture us on our profligate ways.

"The savings rate in China is more than 40 percent," the deputy head of the Chinese central bank recently told the Financial Times. "In the U.S. it is less than 2 percent. So the problem is that they spend too much and save too little."

It is true that Americans consume more than they produce. But we can keep doing it, up to a point, because the folks we import from

– mostly but not entirely in Asia – are happy to produce more than they consume and to lend us money to buy their stuff.


"We are stuck with each other – they are the lenders of last resort and we are the consumers of last resort," says Robert Madsen, senior fellow at MIT's Center for International Studies and an expert on Asian economies. "If they stopped lending we would have a lot of trouble. If we stopped consuming, they would go into recession."

A devaluation of the dollar should encourage Chinese, Japanese and others to spend more on American goods – as well as creating an incentive for Americans to buy fewer imports.

Hopefully the administration will succeed in managing an orderly devaluation and avoid a free fall.

Ultimately America needs to reduce a dangerous dependency on foreign lenders. The only way to do that is to save more and to pay for what we spend on our ourselves and our government.

"If foreign lenders lose confidence, they could trigger a free fall collapse of the dollar. As the cost of imports rise, inflation could jump. And interest rates for banks and home buyers would soar as investors demand a higher return for their greater risk."




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Number of insurgent bombs, deaths grows as election nears

By Robert Burns
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. troops in Fallujah reported finding nearly as many homemade explosives over the past three weeks as had been uncovered throughout Iraq in the previous four months.

In the recent action, the troops found at least 650 homemade bombs, Bryan Whitman, a spokesman for Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, said yesterday. That compares with 722 found throughout the country between July 1 and October 31. The military calls such bombs improvised explosive devices, or IEDs.

The IEDs, rigged to detonate by remote control and often hidden along roadways used by U.S. forces, have been the insurgents' deadliest weapon.

Yesterday, for example, two U.S. soldiers were killed and three others wounded in Baghdad when their patrol hit an IED, officials said.

The Pentagon, meanwhile, said yesterday the U.S. military death toll in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003 stands at 1,251. That is

up 21 since the Pentagon last reported a total on Nov. 24. At least 132 American troops have died in Iraq this month, including the two killed in Baghdad yesterday. It was not clear whether another soldier who died in a vehicle accident yesterday in east-central Iraq was included in the Pentagon's official toll.

The deadliest month for U.S. troops in Iraq was last April, when 135 died.

Combat injuries also have increased this month due to the fierce fighting in Fallujah. Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington reported yesterday that it received 32 additional battle casualties from Iraq over the past two weeks. One was in critical condition.

All 32 had been treated earlier at the Army's main hospital in Europe, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

Since U.S. forces invaded Fallujah Nov. 8 to regain control from insurgents, they have found about a dozen IED "factories," a number of vehicles being modified to serve as car bombs, and at least 10

surface-to-air missiles capable of downing aircraft, Whitman said.

More than half of the approximately 100 mosques in Fallujah were used as fighting positions or weapon storage sites, Whitman said, citing a U.S. military report that has not been released publicly.

U.S. officials knew insurgents had used Fallujah as a haven from which to plan and organize resources for attacks in Baghdad and other cities in the so-called Sunni Triangle north and west of the capital, but the amount of weapons found exceeded expectations.

Rumsfeld told a Pentagon news conference last Tuesday that the kinds and amount of weapons found in Fallujah indicated the insurgents pose a serious and continuing threat.

"No doubt attacks will continue in the weeks and months ahead, and perhaps intensify as the Iraqi election approaches," Rumsfeld said, referring to national elections scheduled for Jan. 30.

Whitman said other discoveries in Fallujah include:

—Plastic explosives and TNT.
—A hand-held Global Positioning System receiver for use in navigation.

—Makeshift shoulder-fired rocket launchers, rocket-propelled grenades, 122mm rockets and thousands of mortar rounds.

—An anti-aircraft artillery gun.

—More than 200 major weapons storage areas.

At the State Department, meanwhile, Secretary of State Colin Powell told reporters yesterday there is no reason Iraq should not hold its Jan. 30 elections as scheduled, despite the insurgency.

"We are working hard on it," he said.

The United Nations has increased its presence in the country, thousands of Iraqis are working on registration and "we are encouraging all parties to participate in the political process, especially in the Sunni heartland," Powell said.

"An election is the way forward," Powell said. "It's the means by which the Iraqi people can say to the world, we want to live in democracy, we want to be able to choose our leaders."



Ray Stubblebine AP Photo

HOLIDAY SHOPPING: Representatives of shopping.com, an Internet comparison shopping site, hand out \$1 bills to shoppers in New York's Herald Square the day after Thanksgiving. Along with the dollar bill, the promotion offered information on an up to 5 percent cash back program for shoppers who use the site.

Web Santas boost retail holiday sales

By Anne D'Innocenzio
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Computer-savvy consumers did plenty of online shopping over the Thanksgiving weekend, giving companies like Amazon.com and walmart.com the same kickoff to the holiday season as department stores and malls had.

The pickup in business on the Web was the result of online merchants using marketing tricks like their brick and mortar counterparts — plying consumers with special discounts to get them to shop early.

Online sales excluding travel shot up 100 percent to \$133 million on Thanksgiving Day compared to the same day last year, said comScore Networks Inc., an Internet research company. On Friday, online sales hit \$250 million, up 41 percent from a year ago.

"We certainly expected a strong performance during the holiday weekend, but these are impressive figures," said Dan Hess, senior vice president

at comScore.

Historically, the online shopping season has begun the Monday after Thanksgiving, when consumers begin buying from their workplace computers. But the early start this year can be attributed to two phenomena: Merchants are working harder to get online sales, and millions of homes have converted to high-speed Internet connections, making it easier to shop from home.

About 53 percent of those consumers who have access to the Internet currently have high-speed Internet connections, compared with 40.9 percent a year ago, according to Ken Cassar, an analyst at Nielsen/NetRatings Inc.

According to Nielsen/NetRatings, the sites that had the biggest spikes in visits this past Friday, compared with a week earlier, were those operated by traditional retailers including walmart.com, sears.com and toysrus.com. Toysrus.com's traffic soared 212.6 percent on Friday, while Amazon.com was up 49.7 percent, Nielsen/NetRatings said.

"Consumers are becoming more savvy about how to use the Internet," Cassar said. "They realize they can do things that can make their stores shopping trip more efficient."

Melissa Payner, president and chief executive of Bluefly.com, an online seller of discounted designer fashions and accessories, reported a double-digit increase in sales during the Wednesday through Sunday period from a year earlier. In 2003, the company drove sales and traffic with a promotion on Prada handbags and wallets on Thanksgiving Day, but decided to be even more aggressive this year, offering a larger assortment of Prada merchandise.

Bluefly.com also launched its own sweepstakes that gives customers chances to win a closet full of ultra-upscale Jimmy Choo shoes by going to its Web site through Jan. 15.

"For the first time, we really participated in the Thanksgiving weekend," Payner said. "Prior to that, there was a belief that customers just went to the stores."

Bin Laden deputy offers video ultimatum

By Salah Nasrawi
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO, Egypt — Osama bin Laden's top deputy vowed in a videotape aired yesterday to keep fighting the United States until Washington changed its policies.

In a brief excerpt broadcast on Al-Jazeera television, Ayman al-Zawahiri offered Americans "one last advice" for dealing with Muslims, adding, "I am sure that they will not heed it."

"You have to choose between one of two methods

to deal with Muslims: either on mutual respect and exchange of interests, or to deal with them as if they are spoils of war," al-Zawahiri said. "This is your problem and you have to choose yourself. You have to realize that we are a nation of patience and endurance. We will stand firm to fight you with God's help until doomsday."

The bearded and bespectacled al-Zawahiri sat before a brown background, with a gun leaning against the wall. One shoulder was covered by a brown

blanket. His voice sounded calm and steady, as in previous tapes.

A U.S. intelligence official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said authorities have "a high degree of confidence" the message was from al-Zawahiri.

The intelligence official noted this video resembles one made in September, featuring a similar brown fabric background and weapon.

But, the official added, that does not mean it was made at the same time or actually is the same video.

Days before the election, bin Laden said in similar video footage that the United States must stop threatening the security of Muslims if it wanted to avoid "another Manhattan" — referring to the Sept. 11 attacks. It was unclear if Al-Jazeera planned to show more of the latest al-Zawahiri tape.

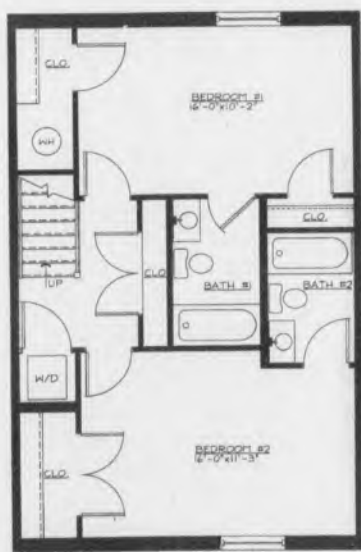
The United States has offered a \$25 million reward for the capture of bin Laden and al-Zawahiri, who are believed to be hiding in the border area of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Come Home And Relax At The Beech!

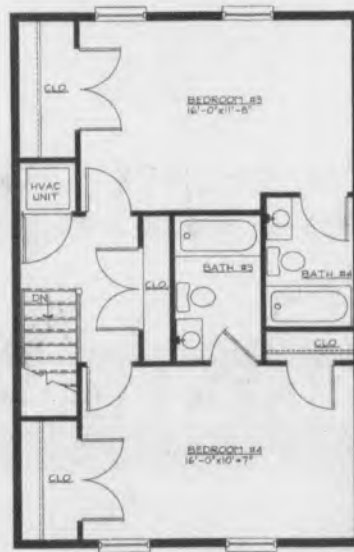
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At the Brown Classic in
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SWIMMING

Thursday - Saturday
At the Notre Dame Invitational

HOCKEY

Friday
At Michigan State, 7:05
Saturday
Home against Michigan State at
7:05 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday
At Detroit, 2:05 p.m.

Falcons want to extend season

By Elliott Schreiner
SPORTS EDITOR

With a crushing loss to Toledo last Tuesday, the Bowling Green football team is feeling like the season ended a bit too soon.

The Falcons lost a 20-point first half lead and couldn't keep up with a Toledo offense that came out firing in the second half. The brown and orange eventually lost to their bitter rivals 49-41 in the Glass Bowl.

The loss was the Falcons' regular season finale.

"I feel really bad," BG quarterback Omar Jacobs said. "If we were going out winners it would soften the blow."

Getting the ball in the end zone proved to be the difference in the end. Toledo scored seven times - all touchdowns - and the Falcons scored seven times - five touchdowns and two field goals.

The BG offense was dominating at times and the numbers didn't lie.

Jacobs finished the game with 415 yards and four touchdowns through the air. Running back P.J. Pope had 98 rushing yards, 104 receiving yards and three touchdowns, and receivers Cole Wagner (nine catches, 113 yards, touchdown) and Charles Sharon (seven, 93, touchdown) showed they are among the league's elite at their position.

"My hat's off to Bowling Green," UT head coach Tom Amstutz said. "They are just about unstoppable."

FOOTBALL, PAGE 8

COLLEGE BASKETBALL: UNC IS ONE OF SEVEN RANKED ACC TEAMS. PAGE 9

SPORTS

TUESDAY

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2004

www.bgnews.com/sports
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY



28 point third guides Toledo

By Adam Hritzak
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The UT-BG rivalry game can simply be looked at as a tale of two halves.

After trailing by 20 points at halftime, Toledo scored 42 second-half points to come back and beat Bowling Green 49-41 Tuesday in the Glass Bowl.

The Rockets put together a masterful performance on offense, defense and special teams in the second half, and the Falcons watched hopelessly, unable to answer UT's barrage.

"We just didn't weather the storm," said BG head coach Gregg Brandon. "We still had 30 minutes of football left and we didn't get it done, we didn't finish."

Down 27-7 at the start of the third quarter, the Rockets came out of the locker room on fire. Facing a fourth and eight on BG's 37-yard line, UT head coach Tom Amstutz decided to go for the jugular as Bruce Gradkowski hit a streaking Lance Moore down the sideline for a touchdown to begin the fireworks.

The result left Brandon stunned.

"Fourth and eight, you've got to be able to stop them," he said.

BG went three and out on the next drive.

Gradkowski, who threw for 338 yards and three touchdowns, hit Scooter McDougle on a delayed screen that totaled 34-yards and put UT on the two-yard line. Gradkowski plunged over the line for a one-yard score to get the Rockets within six at 27-21.

After Shaun Suisham missed a 41-yard field goal off the right goal post, the Rockets offense stormed down the field.

A pass interference call on cornerback Terrill Mayberry moved UT down to the BG 36. Four plays later, Gradkowski connected with Steve Odom for a 20-yard touchdown pass to give the Rockets their first lead of the game at 28-27.

With BG needing to put points on the board, the offense started at its own 20. On the first play, Omar Jacobs hit Steve Sanders

in the flat, but the ball was jarred loose by Keon Jackson and recovered by the Rockets at the 22.

Jalen Parmalee's five-yard touchdown run gave the Rockets a 35-27 lead, bringing the third quarter to a close.

Safety Keon Newson spoke about the Falcons need to make a play to thwart the UT attack.

"As the game grows later and later, the need to make a play is kind of lingering in the back of everybody's mind. Sometimes guys get into a situation where they're trying to do too much and they're overcompensating for other players when they don't have to," he said.

One devastating quarter of play saw the unstoppable BG offense stopped and the leading Mid-American Conference scoring defense run over as Toledo put up 28 unanswered third quarter points.

"I think they did a good job of mixing things up," said Newson, who had three tackles and one interception. "(Toledo) found some weaknesses in our defense and attacked the right areas."

The Falcon offense did not wake up until there was six minutes left in the game and they were desperate, trailing 42-27.

P.J. Pope caught a six-yard touchdown pass to get BG within eight, but Odom recovered the onside kick attempt, leading to a 31-yard McDougle touchdown run, his second score of the game.

Pope caught a five-yard touchdown as the Falcons hurried downfield for a quick score, but once again Odom recovered the onside kick to finally put the game away.

BG's offense was stymied throughout the second half and the team's inability to respond to the huge momentum swing only furthered the Rockets assault.

"UT played great defense, they had a good scheme for us," Jacobs said. "Obviously they did their homework. (They) made great second-half adjustments."



Ben Swanger BG News

FLIPPED AROUND: BG quarterback Omar Jacobs is up ended by a Toledo defender in the Rockets come from behind win, 49-41 on Tuesday in the Glass Bowl. The Rockets defense came out fired up in the second half as they slowed down BG's explosive offense to help stage their comeback.

From the opening minutes of the game, the Falcons appeared on track to dismantle Toledo after Cole Wagner caught a 34-yard touchdown pass from Omar Jacobs.

On the ensuing kickoff, Odom was leveled by Mike Crumpler, resulting in a fumble recovered by Daniel Sayles. Jacobs then found Sanders for a 17-yard gain on the next play, and Pope ran in for a one-yard touchdown to put BG up 14-0 with 12:58 remaining

in the first.

But the Falcon offense had to settle for three field goal attempts on drives in the first half, two of which were successful. Those missed touchdown opportunities left the Rockets with a chance to get back in the game.

"That was in the back of my mind at halftime, that if we could have scored a couple touchdowns instead of kick field goals, we'd have put them away,"

Brandon said. "But we let them hang around."

Falcon Notes

Jacobs passed for 415 yards and four touchdowns ... Pope ran for 98 yards and caught 10 passes for 104 yards and three touchdowns (two receiving, one rushing) ... Wagner had nine catches for 113 yards ... Crumpler led the team with 11 tackles ... BG had 554 total yards, but allowed 517 to UT after giving them only 172 yards at half.

Second-half surge fuels BG victory

By Jason A. Dixon
SENIOR REPORTER

Cook three batches of minute rice. Vacuum the smallest room in your house. Watch a round of television commercials.

There isn't much else that can be accomplished in the time it took for the Bowling Green State men's basketball team to establish its supremacy over Bradley University in an 81-65 victory before 1,626 fans at Anderson Arena Saturday afternoon.

Three minutes to drain the optimism and put a kink in any hopes of a comeback after the Braves had pulled to within four, 39-35 with 17:42 left in the second half, which was the closest they had been since trailing 10-5.

But a three-point field goal by BG's Steven Wright at the 17:30 mark pushed the lead up to seven and by the time the clock read 14:30, the Falcons had a 51-39 advantage — the largest lead of the game — and outscored the Braves 30-26 to provide the final margin.

It was the Falcons' (2-1) second consecutive win over a school from Illinois, following Wednesday's 63-51 victory over the University of Illinois-Chicago.

"Well, I thought this concluded a pretty good week for us," head coach Dan Dakich said. "I thought that ... with a week before we play our next game, I'd kind of like to play again in two days. I like this team. I like the way they're playing."

BG took a 34-27 lead into



Steven Garner BG News

HANDLES: Perrick Robinson dribbles against Bradley during the Falcons 81-65 win on Saturday. Robinson scored four points in the contest.

intermission as neither team scored over the final 2:43 of the half.

Wright, who scored 14 of his 16 points in the second half, said the team's offensive efficiency in the second half was due to Dakich's talk in the locker room.

"Coach told us we were standing on offense in the first half and he said that we needed to start moving more, and we'd start getting more open shots," he said.

The Falcons got the message. After shooting 33.3 percent in the first half, BG hit 58.1 percent of its shots, while turning the ball over just five times following 11 in the first half.

The Falcons shot 16-24 from the foul line and connected on nine of 20 three-point attempts.

Seniors Josh Almonson and John Reimold led BG with 22 points and six rebounds and 19 points and nine rebounds, respectively.

John Floyd chipped in with three steals, four points and eight assists.

Dakich said Floyd, playing in his first season with the Falcons after transferring last year, struggled early but has come on strong.

"He didn't have the greatest month of October on in into November ... I don't know why but he did," he said. "He has really turned his deal around here since we've started playing games, which is a lot better than a guy doing really well in practice and not doing any good in games."

Women fall to Duquesne 68-63

Falcons shoot 30.9
percent from field to
drop to 1-2 on year.

By Elliott Schreiner
SPORTS EDITOR

The Bowling Green women's basketball team played about as well as it can play but still came up short against Duquesne Saturday in Pittsburgh.

The Falcons had their opportunities to win the game, but it was Duquesne that came out victorious, winning 68-63. The game moved both teams to 1-2 on the season.

"It was a disappointing loss," said BG head coach Curt Miller in a Sunday interview. "We just watched films and we had nine opportunities in the second half to tie or take the lead."

The momentum the Falcons were never able to gain proved to be the difference.

The Falcons' main problem was not execution, as they were able to get open looks, but rather capitalizing on the open looks. The Falcons shot just 30.9 percent from the floor and saw just three of their players shoot 50 percent or better on the game.

They also had trouble scoring from the free throw line, where the Falcons shot a respectable

67 percent but failed to make them when they counted.

"On top of the shooting we had a disappointing night from the foul line," Miller said. "Some of our misses were the front ends of one and ones."

But even though it was a loss, there were some bright spots for a young BG squad.

The point guard position showed up big for the Falcons, as senior Tene Lewis and freshman Kate Achter combined for 15 points, four rebounds and four assists.

On top of that, forward Ali Mann put up 23 points to go with her six rebounds and was consistently looking for ways to help her team win.

"Ali Mann really wanted the ball in crunch time," Miller said. "I like to see that."

The game against Duquesne was just part of the team's plan to play a tougher non-conference schedule. This year's non-MAC games have been some of the toughest BG has played in years, according to Miller. And the team is hoping to build on these games for future successes.

"We probably played well enough to win on the road against a quality Atlantic 10 opponent," Miller said.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, PAGE 8

Hockey takes three points

By Kevin Shields
SENIOR REPORTER

Strong goaltending and strong special teams play helped the Falcon hockey team take three out of four points from Miami in a big Central Collegiate Hockey Association series as it earned a 2-2 tie on Friday before taking a 2-1 victory on Saturday.

"We knew going into the weekend that Miami was a very good hockey team," BG head coach Scott Paluch said. "To get three out of four points against a team like Miami is important. We wanted to get last Saturday behind us and move forward in the league and getting three out of four against a team like that is a good step forward."

Jordan Sigalet stopped 50 of 53 shots on the weekend as he bounced back from a tough outing in his last game against Wayne State, a game in which Sigalet was pulled after allowing four goals in the first period, stopping only 5-of-9 shots.

This weekend, Sigalet would only allow one goal in the first period in the two games and made big saves all weekend to give the Falcons the opportunity to win both games.

"I thought he was terrific all weekend with finding pucks through traffic and smothering pucks in the danger area," Paluch said about Sigalet's play on the weekend. "It just really looked all weekend long that not many goals were going to go by him. He was going to do what he needed to do to get us the points."

Don Morrison was the high point man on the weekend for the Falcons. He tallied a goal and an assist on the weekend to bring his season point total to eight, which is currently tied for fourth best on the team.

It was a goal by Morrison with only 7:53 left in regulation that tied the game on Friday and helped the Falcons get one point. He took a pass from Ben Geelan and fired a laser from the right circle that beat Miami goaltender Brandon Crawford-West on the stick side to tie it up at 2-2.

The game went scoreless through the first as Miami only got six shots on net and the Falcons only got five.

Miami would take the lead



Steven Garner: BG News

ATTACK MODE: Senior Ryan Minnabarriet, left, fights for the puck against Miami. BG tied them 2-2 on Friday before winning 2-1 on Saturday.

just 2:34 into the second though: Todd Grant stuck in a rebound in front off a shot from Ryan Jones on the power-play to make it 1-0.

However, BG would strike back just 1:21 later as Alex Foster scored off a pass on the right side of the net from Chris Pedota to tie it at 1-1. Rich Meloche also picked up an assist on Foster's third goal of the year.

The RedHawks would get 11 shots on net in the second and had numerous chances, including a 5-on-3 power-play during the middle part of the period. BG would come up big though and Sigalet made some big saves to keep the game knotted up at 1.

With just 1:28 left in the period though, the RedHawks would take the lead on a goal by Jones that trickled in on a shot from the right side of the net.

Both teams would battle hard and share scoring opportunities through the rest of the game, but the goaltenders kept the pucks out of the net. Sigalet made 29 saves that night and

Crawford-West made 20.

After Morrison's goal in the third the teams would go into overtime where it would end in a 2-2 tie.

"I thought we did a good job of staying with the game and giving ourselves an opportunity at the end," Paluch said. "It was just a game where we couldn't quite get to enough loose pucks, but I thought our team hung in there well enough and these are all big points."

"It was really huge to get that point, that'll make a big difference at the end of the year in the league," Sigalet said. "Miami is really fast team, probably the fastest team we've faced all year, so I thought it was a good test for us and to be down twice in the game and come back and tie it up was a big confidence booster for us."

Saturday's contest would go much like Friday's game as the play was even through the first period.

The teams would combine to total 19 minutes in the pen-

alty box in the first and the RedHawks would use a five minute major called on James Unger to get their only tally of the night. Chris Busby would put a high shot past Sigalet on the left side of the net to make it 1-0.

Unger would redeem himself in the second period for the Falcons, scoring his fourth goal of the season on a Falcon power-play off a deflection from a shot by Morrison up top. Brett Pilkington would also pick up an assist on the play at 9:25.

BG generated good short-handed chances throughout the game on the penalty-kill and two minutes after Unger's goal, the Falcons would capitalize on one of those chances on a Miami power-play to get the game-winner.

Bryan Dobek would get the puck and advance it through the neutral zone before finding Steve Brudzewski. Brudzewski skated in on the right and took a shot that went off the goalie then came right back to him as he put a shot in on the right side to make it 2-1 BG.

The Falcons would out-shoot Miami 15-14 in the final two periods and Sigalet came up big again saving 21-of-22 shots as BG moves to 7-3-2 on the year with a CCHA record of 4-2-2 which is currently fourth best in the league.

"I thought our penalty-kill which was a major focus for us this week was a big key to the weekend for us," Paluch said. "It did a great job in this game and got us the game-winning goal there. It was two teams from the CCHA battling and we were able to get the extra goal and get the win."

"Give Bowling Green a lot of credit," Miami head coach Enrico Blasi said. "They're a good hockey team and Jordan Sigalet is one of the best goalies in our league for a reason. They deserved to win this game."

The BG power-play went 1-14 on the weekend and killed off 10 of 12 power-plays for Miami.

Michigan State is up next for the Falcons as they will travel to play the Spartans on Friday at Munn Ice Arena in East Lansing Mich., before returning home Saturday to finish out a key home-and-home CCHA series.

Close-knit bunch hopes for bowl

FOOTBALL, FROM PAGE 7

The performance prompted Amstutz to see a bright future in the BG postseason.

"They're definitely a bowl-caliber team," he said.

That is the song BG coach Gregg Brandon has been singing recently.

The Falcons were in the Top 25 until the loss and went on a seven game winning streak that saw them beat opponents by an average of nearly 40 points, and that still puts them fourth in the Mid-American Conference, right out of reach of an automatic bowl bid.

"I'm damn proud of this football team; they fought their tails off," Brandon said. "We've won eight games this season, I hope the bowls are listening."

And the Falcons are certain they don't want their season to end on such a sour note. A bowl would be a perfect place for them to redeem this loss.

"[We want a bowl] real bad," Jacobs said. "If we go out winners, it would soften the blow ... if we get a bowl bid

you better believe we're going to come out firing."

The team's unity is what makes it really hard for the players to walk away.

"We love each other on this team," senior Keon Newson said. "I don't know how normal it is on other teams, but the

atmosphere on our

team is just so great

... I think we got a

team that if the sea-

son ended today

guys would still be

hanging around

each other because

they can't let go of

that feeling."

A bowl bid would

give this team one

more chance to

shine.

"I just want to go

back out there and see Jovon

Burkes, Scott Mruczkowski and

[Andy] Grubb, their hearts are

just full of gold; just to be with

those guys on the field again,"

Newson said. "We want a bowl

game really, really bad."

As of now, a bowl game is

up in the air for the Falcons,

with plenty of options for the

eight-win team, everyone from

the GMAC Bowl to the Houston

Bowl. Now all BG can do is sit

and wait for a word from bowl

representatives.

Falcons excited to come home

WOMEN'S B BALL, FROM PAGE 7

Playing quality opponents on the road is something the Falcons are going to have to get used to. Their next game is at home against Youngstown State and is one of two home games BG will play in the 2004 portion of the season.

The Falcons and the Penguins are building a small out-of-conference rivalry. The last two seasons have seen Youngstown beat the Falcons. Two years

ago was YSU coach Tisha Hill's first season as head coach of the Penguins and her first win came against the Falcons. Then last season, it was a loss to the Penguins that more than likely kept the Falcons from playing in the postseason WNIT.

"I won't have to give much of a pep talk," Miller said.

The Falcons will host budding rival Youngstown State at Anderson Arena tonight at 7.



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Dick Ebersol and sons in serious plane crash

NBC Sports Chairman recovered from crash, but 14-year-old son is believed dead.

By John Marshall
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The body of the 14-year-old son of NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol was believed recovered after a fiery jet crash that killed two crewmen and left the injured executive and another of his sons begging bystanders for help.

Coroner Mark Young said a body matching the description of Edward "Teddy" Ebersol was found underneath the wreckage. Heavy equipment was used to recover the body.

"I'm not going to discuss the condition of the body out of respect for the family," he said during a news conference.

The aircraft with six people on board crashed during a snowstorm Sunday while taking off from the airport outside this small town 185 miles southwest of Denver. Federal authorities had no immediate word on the cause of the crash.

Witnesses described a chaotic scene following the crash. Charles Ebersol, the sports executive's 21-year-old son, was screaming for help and saying his brother was still on the plane, according to Doug Percival, a driver at a towing service who was one of the first to arrive.

"Can you please help get him out?" Ebersol pleaded, according to Percival. The elder Ebersol was sitting on the ground nearby, rocking back and forth.

"You could tell he was in shock. Both of them had been ripped out of their shoes," said Percival.

With light snow falling, crews began picking through the charred pile of twisted metal and a 6-foot-high shard of the fuselage with three gaping, round windows. The two engines lay on the ground nearby near the tail section where they had been mounted.

A backhoe was brought in to help dig through the wreckage, found near a cattle pen in a snow-covered field dotted with knee-high weeds. A white sheet was draped across part of the site as crews wrapped up work for the day.

"It's going to be a while because unfortunately a lot of the wreckage is still covered with snow," said Arnold Scott, the lead investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board.

Ebersol has been head of NBC Sports for nearly 15 years, and is perhaps best known for his love of the Olympics, which are broadcast on the network.

He and his two sons, Charles



Chuck Distel AP Photo

TRAGEDY STRIKES: An airplane burns after takeoff at Montrose Regional Airport in Montrose, Colo. on Sunday. NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol survived the crash that killed at least two people.

and Edward, were flying home from California, where the older son's school, Notre Dame, played a football game Saturday against Southern California. Another Ebersol son, 18-year-old Willie, is a freshman at USC.

The family flew to Colorado, where they have a home, to drop off Ebersol's wife, Susan Saint James, an actress who starred in the 1980s television series "Kate and Allie." Then, Ebersol and the two sons were headed to drop off Charles at school in South Bend, Ind.

A heavy snowstorm had eased up before the plane prepared to take off, but there was no immediate word if weather was a factor. Steve McLaughlin of MTJ Air Services, which de-ices private planes at the airport, said his company did not de-ice Ebersol's plane before it took off. Airport Manager Scott Brownlee said he did not know whether the plane had been de-iced.

Witnesses said it appeared the plane, a CL-602 Challenger, never got off the ground. It ran off the runway and skidded across a two-lane road, punching through fences on either side before bursting into flames.

Percival said he was going to crawl through a hole in the

plane to look for survivors but turned around because of billowing smoke. He said leaking jet fuel soon exploded "like Roman candles."

Gary Ellis was teaching Sunday school at a Baptist Church near the airport when he heard a loud "poof."

"It came to a rest, and a moment or two later it exploded into a huge fireball," said Ellis. "It was burning as it came down the run way."

The FAA said the pilot and a flight attendant were killed. The coroner's office identified the victims as Luis Alberto Polanco Espallat, 50, of the Dominican Republic and Warren T. Richardson III, 36, of Coral Gables Fla., but did not say which was the pilot.

The co-pilot was hospitalized in Denver, while Dick and Charles Ebersol were hospitalized in Grand Junction. Deputy coroner Matt Eilts said the co-pilot was in critical condition.

The plane was registered to Jet Alliance of Millville N.J. The company offered its condolences but said it had no additional information.

AP Sports Writer Howard Fendrich in New York contributed to this report.

ACC has seven ranked

By Jim O'Connell
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Virginia moved into The Associated Press' men's college basketball Top 25, giving the Atlantic Coast Conference a record-tying seven teams in the poll.

Wake Forest extended its lead at No. 1, the Cavaliers were No. 24, and there were five other conference schools in between, matching the feat accomplished twice by the Big Ten and once by the ACC.

The Demon Deacons (5-0) used their Preseason NIT championship to pull away from No. 2 Kansas (2-0). Wake Forest had 40 first-place votes and 1,737 points from the national media panel, while the Jayhawks were No. 1 on 18 ballots and had 1,678 points.

Last week, Wake Forest received 25 first-place votes, one fewer than Kansas, and had 19 more points.

The other ranked ACC teams were No. 4 Georgia Tech, No. 9 North Carolina, No. 10 Duke, No. 12 Maryland and No. 16 North Carolina State.

The Big Ten had seven teams ranked for one week in January 1993, and for four weeks in January 1999. The ACC did it for two weeks in December 1997.

No. 3 Syracuse and Georgia Tech switched places from last week. The Orange (5-0) had four first-place votes, while Georgia Tech (3-0), which beat Illinois-Chicago 60-59 and Arkansas-Little Rock 79-54, was No. 1 on seven ballots.

Illinois, Oklahoma State, Connecticut and Kentucky held spots five through eight from last week. Illinois got one first-place vote, Oklahoma State had two.

North Carolina, which won the Maui Invitational, moved up



Grant Halverson AP Photo

LISTEN UP: North Carolina coach Roy Williams, right, talks with Marvin Williams during the Tar Heels 97-65 win over USC Sunday.

from 11th, while Duke dropped one spot.

Michigan State was 11th, followed by Maryland, Pittsburgh, Washington, Mississippi State, North Carolina State, Louisville, Texas, Florida and Notre Dame.

The last five ranked teams were Arizona, Alabama, Iowa, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Virginia (4-0) beat then-No. 11 Arizona 78-60 on Nov. 21 and defeated Appalachian State and Richmond this week. The Cavaliers were last ranked in December 2002.

Iowa (3-1) moved in at No. 23 off an impressive Maui Invitational. The Hawkeyes, who were ranked for one week in December 2003, played three Top 15 teams in Hawaii, beating Louisville and Texas before losing to North Carolina in the championship game.

Gonzaga and Memphis dropped out of the Top 25.

The Bulldogs (3-1) lost 89-72 to Illinois, ending a run of 22 consecutive poll appearances. Gonzaga was ranked every week last season, reaching a school-best No. 3 in the last two polls of the season.

Memphis (4-2) lost 84-61 to Maryland in the Hall of Fame Tipoff Classic. The Tigers, who were ranked at the end of last season, also lost to Syracuse in the final of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic.

Washington used its championship run in the Great Alaska Shootout to have the week's biggest jump. The Huskies, who beat Alabama 79-76 in the title game, moved from No. 22 to No. 14.

The biggest drop of the week was shared by Louisville and Wisconsin. The Cardinals fell from 12th to 17th after finishing fifth at Maui. Wisconsin dropped from 20th to 25th following a 75-61 loss at Pepperdine.

Sirius gets NCAA through 2007

Radio company will broadcast all games in tournament.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. signed a deal to air the men's NCAA basketball tournament through 2007, the latest move made in an attempt to draw customers through sports programming.

Sirius will broadcast every game of the tournament for the next three years, the network said Monday. Financial terms were not disclosed.

Sirius and its competitor, XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc., recently started signing personalities and sports leagues

in an effort to attract new subscribers.

Last month, XM announced a \$650 million, 11-year deal to air major league baseball games live.

The baseball announcement followed a five-year, \$500 million deal Sirius signed with shock jock Howard Stern, who will debut in January 2006. Sirius said it would need to attract 1 million subscribers to cover the cost of that contract.

Sirius also has an all-NFL channel and a deal with College Sports Television which enables Sirius to air the games of 23 major-college teams -- including Southern California, Notre Dame and LSU.

Sirius said last week that it

passed the 800,000 subscriber mark, and the company said it remains on track to reach 1 million subscribers through December. It charges \$12.95 a month for 120 commercial-free channels.

XM now has 2.5 million subscribers who pay \$9.95 a month for 130 channels of music and talk radio via satellite receivers. The company said it would need to sign up about 700,000 new subscribers over the course of the baseball deal to generate enough cash to cover its cost.

Also Monday, Sirius announced it will broadcast approximately 225 English Premier League soccer games through May 2005.

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BUSH PICKS KELLOGG CEO FOR COMMERCE POST

WASHINGTON — President Bush picked Carlos Gutierrez, the chief executive officer of Kellogg Co., as commerce secretary yesterday, working to build a new economic team to help sell second-term overhauls of Social Security and the tax code. The White House offered no promise of job security to Treasury Secretary John Snow, who has made clear he wants to remain.

www.bgnews.com/nation

NATION

Mercy debated

By Gina Holland
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court questioned whether state medical marijuana laws might be abused by people who aren't really sick as it debated yesterday whether the federal government can prosecute patients who smoke pot on doctors' orders.

The stakes are high on both the government level — 11 states have passed medical marijuana laws since 1996 — and the personal.

In the courtroom watching the argument was Angel Raich, an Oakland, Calif., mother of two who said she tried dozens of prescription medicines to ease the pain of a brain tumor and other illnesses before she turned to marijuana. She and another ill woman, Diane Monson, filed a

lawsuit to protect their access to the drug after federal agents confiscated marijuana plants from Monson's yard.

Their attorney, Randy Barnett of Boston, told the justices that his clients are law-abiding citizens who need marijuana to survive. Marijuana may have some negative side effects, he said, but seriously sick people are willing to take the chance because the drug helps them more than traditional medicines.

The justices refused three years ago to protect distributors of medical marijuana from federal anti-drug charges. They are confronting a more personal issue this time — the power of federal agents to go after sick people who use homegrown cannabis with their doctors' permission and their states' approval.

A defeat for the two California women might undermine laws passed by California and 10 other states and discourage other states from approving their own.

A loss for the government, on the other hand, could jeopardize federal oversight of illegal drugs and raise questions in other areas such as product safety and environmental activities. A Bush administration lawyer told the justices they would be encouraging people to use potentially harmful marijuana if they were to side with the women.

"If they're right, then I think their analysis would extend to recreational use of marijuana, as well as medical use of marijuana, and would extend to every state in the nation, not just those states that made it lawful," said Paul Clement, acting solicitor general.

Justice David H. Souter said an estimated 10 percent of people in America use illegal drugs, and states with medical marijuana laws might not be able to stop recreational users from taking advantage.

Justice Stephen Breyer said the government makes a strong argument that as many as 100,000 sick people use marijuana in California, and "when we see medical marijuana in California, we won't know what it is. Everybody'll say, 'Mine is medical.' Certificates will circulate on the black market. We face a mess."

And Justice Antonin Scalia said there are many people with "alleged medical needs."

Despite the tenor of the debate, the case is hard to predict. The justices will rule before next summer.



MEDICINAL: Diane Monson exhales after taking a puff from a pipe of marijuana to control her back pain.



CHIEF MOURNS: Lt. Col. Jonathan Withington, chief spokesperson for the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, turns away from the media after making the announcement that a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter crashed.

Military craft crashes

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRUCEVILLE-EDDY, Texas — A Black Hawk helicopter carrying seven soldiers from Fort Hood crashed yesterday in central Texas after hitting a television broadcast tower guy wire, authorities said. A witness said he saw four bodies.

The UH-60 Black Hawk, bound for Texarkana, went down in a field about 30 miles northeast of Fort Hood in foggy conditions near Interstate 35, said Dan Hassett, a base spokesman.

Rock Eicke, who lives about a quarter-mile from the crash site, said he was getting ready for work about 7 a.m. when he was startled by a loud metallic rattling sound. He said he looked out his window and saw the helicopter hitting the ground.

"All of the sudden I just saw a big ball of fire erupt from the ground and then boom, an explosion," Eicke told The Associated Press.

Eicke called 911 and then accompanied a deputy who needed directions to the crash site. Eicke said he saw four dead soldiers — two outside the helicopter and two inside the burning wreckage.

"It was burning to the point that we couldn't have done anything," Eicke said. "These two people that were laying there, there wasn't any question that they were alive. They were dead."

There was no immediate confirmation of fatalities.

Ken Brown, a constable in McClennan County, said he and emergency crews could see the burning wreckage as they approached the scene, but it had burned out by the time they arrived.

Among the scattered debris,

Brown said he saw four bodies. He said paramedics told him they were looking for seven.

"I didn't see any survivors. I don't see how," he said.

Hassett did not know what kind of mission the helicopter

"It was burning to the point that we couldn't have done anything."

ROCK EICKE

was on when it crashed, but said the soldiers were attached to the 4th Infantry Division. Fort Hood officials and an accident investigation team from Fort Rucker, Ala., was heading to the scene just south of Waco.

The helicopter hit a guy wire that stabilizes a 1,800-foot television broadcasting tower, said Jerry Pursley, general manager of Waco-Temple-Killeen television station KXXV, which owns the tower. The tower itself was not hit, he said.

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ASIA TRADE AGREEMENTS CREATE FREEDOM

Southeast Asian nations and China signed an accord yesterday to create the world's biggest free trade area by removing tariffs by decade's end. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations also signed a pact to flesh out their agreement last year to create a nation similar to a unified Europe by 2020. It aims to create a common market with common security goals.

www.bgnews.com/world

WORLD

Ukrainian presidential election creates hostile protests in streets

By Natasha Lisova
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KIEV, Ukraine — Facing a relentless tide of opposition protests, embattled President Leonid Kuchma said yesterday that a new election might be the only way out of a spiraling crisis that threatens to break up this former Soviet republic between the pro-Russia east and the Western-leaning west of Ukraine.

Kuchma warned that "we cannot in any instance allow the disintegration or division of Ukraine," and Secretary of State Colin Powell said he had telephoned the Ukrainian president to express concern about reports of a possible splintering of the country.

Kuchma—who along with the Kremlin has staunchly supported the official winner of the disputed Nov. 21 runoff, his prime minister, Viktor Yanukovich—has called for compromise throughout the standoff but had not previously endorsed another vote.

"If we really want to preserve peace and harmony, if we really want to build a democratic state... let's hold new elections," said Kuchma, who did not seek another term. He said Ukraine needs a "legitimate president" and added that the crisis could be resolved through a "constitutional agreement" endorsed by parliament, suggesting existing law might not be flexible enough to accommodate a settlement.

While it fell short of meeting protesters' hopes that opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko would be named president, Kuchma's statement appeared to be at least a tacit admission that the election was tainted.

Yanukovich, who was declared the winner of the runoff by a margin of 871,402 votes, said he would support another vote if allegations of fraud in the election are proven—but that he had yet to see such proof.

Yushchenko has pushed for a new vote to settle the runoff, but Kuchma's remarks suggested the government may want to start the whole election process over. Kuchma's statement could also indicate a desire to win a respite from the relentless opposition blockade of official buildings.

Kuchma spoke as Yushchenko's supporters contested the vote in the Supreme Court, demanding that it cancel the official results because of evidence of fraud.

Addressing tens of thousands of supporters who flooded central Kiev for the eighth straight day, Yushchenko urged them to maintain their vigil despite freezing temperatures. "The next couple of days will bring a solution," Yushchenko said, as the crowd shouted in support.

He said he expects the court's verdict soon, and added that the opposition would also try today to topple Yanukovich's Cabinet through a no-confidence motion in parliament.

But in a sign of division in Yanukovich's camp, Serhiy Tyhytko resigned as his campaign chief and also stepped down as Central Bank chairman.

Kuchma warned that the country's financial system could "fall apart like a house of cards" in "a few days."

"Neither the president nor the government can be held responsible for this," he said. "The government cannot work in a normal way as you can all clearly see."

Yanukovich told Powell's deputy, Richard Armitage, that he had sought to moderate the pro-Russia eastern regions' push for autonomy, but added that "if the opposition fails to compromise, the threat of Ukraine's break up remains real," the Interfax news agency reported.

"There is little time left for finding a balanced political decision: not even days, but hours," Yanukovich said, according to Interfax. "If we don't do that, the situation may spin out of control."

Yanukovich's native Donetsk province scheduled an autonomy referendum for Sunday, and other eastern regions threatened to follow suit if Yanukovich is shut out of the presidency.

Russian-speakers are concentrated in the eastern industrial heartland of Ukraine. Many easterners feel a growing alienation from the more western regions—ruled by Poland until the 1700s—where voters overwhelmingly sup-

ported Yushchenko's reformist program and orientation toward Europe. Eastern Ukraine is more heavily populated than the west, and many of its citizens—coal miners and factory workers—see themselves as holding the country together economically.

A spokesman for Yushchenko's campaign in the eastern Luhansk region, Dmitriy Malikov, said several dozen Yanukovich supporters armed with brass knuckles and hammers beat about 70 Yushchenko supporters. He said some 20 people were injured, including a Canadian election monitor.

In a conversation with Armitage, Yanukovich said that his son had been attacked and other family members had been pressured by the opposition, prompting him to send his family out of Kiev.

The opposition has voiced fears that Kuchma or his aides might try to introduce a state of emergency, but Defense Minister Oleksandr Kuzmuk ruled it out

and said the army wouldn't move against the people.

Ukraine's election crisis has pitted Russia against the United States and other Western nations, which have refused to accept official results. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told Powell yesterday.

Under Ukrainian legislation, the Supreme Court cannot rule on the overall results but can declare results invalid in individual precincts. Mykola Katerinchuk, a Yushchenko aide, said the appeal focused on results in eight eastern and southern Ukrainian regions—more than 15 million votes, almost half of the total cast in the runoff.

The Supreme Court said last week that the official election results could not be published until it rules on Yushchenko's challenge—effectively blocking Yanukovich's inauguration. On Saturday, parliament passed a nonbinding resolution declaring the election invalid.



Alexander Zemlianichenko AP Photo

CITIZEN'S OUTCRY: A woman waves the bible as she chants anti-government slogans protesting alleged fraud in the presidential elections at the main square of Ukrainian capital Kiev, Tuesday.



Elrem Lukatsky AP Photo

ELECTION UPSET: A group of Ukrainian police cadets march in support for opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko, in Kiev, on Friday.

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1 Particle
2 Son of Leah
3 Stingy
4 Improvise
5 Attractive
6 Floating barrier
7 Not tight
8 Computer key
9 Tenor Enrico
10 Goneril's father
11 Gaffer Palmer
12 Unrestrained outbreaks
13 African nation
21 Craze
22 Taxi
26 Actor West
27 Actress Campbell
28 Belgian river
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32 Numbered musical piece
34 Very pronounced French?
35 Outback runner
36 Transmit
38 Black-and-white whale

39 Enjoy a book
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47 Hampton Inn rival
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62 Pieces of pelvises
63 Revivalist's workplace
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ACROSS

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9 Singer Petula
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15 Diving bird with a laughlike cry
16 Eagles' home
17 Roundish shape
18 Joe Orton play
19 Spoke and spoke
20 Like "country club" prisons
23 Saloon
24 Remarkable times
25 NASA partner
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29 Nothing at all
31 Shout to surprise
33 Fates
37 Left at sea
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46 Mexicali Mrs.

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